

...who interests in this city have so neglected their duties of citizenship; have in the hurry of private business permitted their public interests to go by default; that they have themselves alone to blame for the change in public sentiment. Since Thomas Jefferson wrote his memorable words describing the province of officials in this country, "To cultivate peace and maintain commerce and navigation in all their useful enterprises, to preserve the faith of the nation

an exact discharge of its duties and contracts, to expend the public money with the same care and economy as the private practice with his own, and to be as free from all selfishness and partiality as the most disinterested man in the world." Now, alas! it seems the aim of most public men, and this aim is generally considered proper and praiseworthy, to secure either personal emolument, and having secured it, to bring the public funds to their hands in such a manner as to secure influence to themselves and their kindred relations. These ends are not to render service to the community, but only consider the selfish aims of the individual. It is not the aim of the public man to change public sentiment on this point, and we as a society pledge our

...to condemn the existing system of place giving and employment, to hold up any public official who knowingly pays extravagant wages from the public purse—and by extravagant we mean anything in excess of what an honest, open, competitive free market—who con-

[illegible]

to learn recently being at these in opposition from the House, and form a corps of "whippers-in of morality, good order and economy." We shall see the day when these for office will be the only consideration among the candidates, when these chosen to office consider themselves in doing public duty with as much care as if those money were drawn from their own private purse, and when the chief ambition of officials will be to receive as their highest reward the white commendation, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

When planning the subject of this political millennium what is the best course for the city to adopt in determining its approach?

Our committee, as the result of their best reflection and judgment, would recommend taking the subject of the millennium as a starting point for planning it under the control of an intelligent organization who studies and understands the subject, who will establish an appropriate and significant program, who will not subject to confirmation by the Board of Aldermen. Let us proceed to restrict the city to no less than thirty districts, and advertise for the people to select a representative from each district and remove the subject therefrom from our consideration.

re contractors, and for proposals to collect and remove garbage for each district from another and distinct class of contractors. The garbage collectors to seek the garbage within the houses, and not one pound of it to be permitted to be put into the open street for collection. Each contractor should give satisfactory bonds, and his contract should be forfeitable by the superintendent on proof of continued

ject of duty, for first offense let him be notified to repair the omission; if the notification be not complied with, let the work be done by the Superintendent and the cost thereof charged to the contractor and deducted from his monthly pay. For small districts specifications could readily be drawn up which might be made to be prepared for the closing of the school year in one year's contract. We opened the printed form of contract used in Philadelphia as an example. Let the Superintendent select and appoint an inspector for each district, whose duty

It shall be to note in books prepared for the purpose the condition of each street in his district in each day of the year. The inspectors may be changed from district to district at the pleasure of the superintendent, in order to obviate too great intimacy with any one contractor. Let regular complaint books be opened at certain stations in each district and let it be understood that any complaints

herein recorded by any citizen over his name and address shall be properly and promptly noticed. Give the entire supervision of the whole work to the Board of Health, who shall in case of dereliction of duty on the part of superintendent or inspectors have power to prefer charges against him or them to the Mayor, who shall, on proof being made, promptly remove the offender.

EFFECTS OF THE CHANGE.

Such in brief is the outline of the system we would recommend. It is that in use in Philadelphia, and it things being considered, seems to us best calculated to meet existing wants here. It contemplates little or no patronage. If the Mayor appoints the proper man as superintendent, and he alone has the selection and appointment of inspectors, the only employees under the system save the few clerks necessary to keep the counts, he should be able to withstand any outside

measure in the choice of its subcontractors. Knowing that it alone will be held responsible for the conduct of the city in this respect, it will choose its contractors on the basis of the performance of their work. No new material need be purchased by public funds; the contractors should supply their own apparatus. Ordinances should be passed indicating a penalty upon the owner of any tenement where which any garbage was found, either on the street or mixed with ashes in barrels. These penalties should be enforced by the Board of Health, on

complaint of the superintendent or inspector, whose duty it shall be to furnish the necessary evidence, so that legislation needed to inaugurate and perfect this system would be trifling. Under it the cleaning of each street in New York city could be contracted for, to take place on specified days in each week, and any default could be traced at once. The question of wages paid for labor would be settled by such contractors, and the city would be free to legislate on the question of dumping places, which would be found readily enough, for the streets are in a state of anarchy. In New York,

We have had other systems under consideration, notably one proposed by Professor Guandler, known as the block system, whereby one man is placed in charge of a certain number of blocks, with the sole responsibility of keeping them in order. The lateness

the most serious and elaborate detail of this system, which we hope will be fully set forth at a later day by Professor Gaudier himself in a paper promised to him. All other systems considered by us offer too great temptations to partiality and political favoritism, which we all things considered carefully avoided. We have therefore deemed to commend the Philadelphia system, as above detailed.

One word before we close. While we have nothing extenuated, we have set down naught in malice. If

right names we answer that the time for dainty words has passed. When men who have placed the savings of a lifetime into real estate in this city, thinking it the safest investment for their children, and themselves forced to abandon their property from inability to meet the enormous taxes levied upon it at valuations far above its salable price; when the heaviest burden which this sorely burdened people have to bear is the annual impost laid upon them to provide

our government citizens, whom our government has failed to protect, whom it has failed to save, to meet that impost, and providing it is sufficient to supply the best and fittest of everything, it sees a large portion of those revenues turned aside to utterly unworthy objects, serving to fasten upon the body politic a horde of idlers, whose only business and office it is to perpetuate the rotten system which has brought them into being, realizing the old Greek fable in the spectacle of this mighty city bound hand and foot to be delivered over to a flock of loathsome

features, drawing from her very vitals the sentiment which gives them strength to float and dissonance her, shall we sit idly by and make no sign? If ever there was a time when it was expedient as well as right to speak plainly, now is the time; and your committee, feeling this, has not attempted to skirt its duty. Personally it may have none but the kindest feelings toward the committee which has afforded them every facility in the prosecution of their inquiries; but as exponents of the system of having men work for speeches

labor and of appointments to place under dictation
they, in the judgment of your committee, are lacking
in duty to the public, whose servants they are, and as
such subject to rebuke.

THATCHWELL ADAMS, } Committee.
JACKSON S. SCHULTZ, }

New York, Jan. 3, 1874.

COMMISSIONER SEWARD'S REQUEST.

The committee were then discharged, the report

Police Commissioner Erhardt arose and said that, although he was not a member, he believed the Society permitted the free expression of views from outsiders as well as from its own members, and, therefore, he would like to suggest

the justice of allowing the Police Commissioners to prepare a statement of their side of the question to follow the report already rendered. He had intended to do the exhaustive and complete paper submitted; and, although agreeing with it in many particulars, the committee had, in his opinion, drawn incorrect conclusions, which the Commissioners could refute if permitted to

and in a counter statement. The society evidently wished not to publish a one sided story, but to give all privilege to those accused to answer in their own behalf.

A motion was then passed that the Police Commissioners, through Commissioner Erhardt, be asked to write a counter statement, to be given to the Executive Committee to attach to their printed report.

Commissioner Erhardt replied that he felt obliged, but that after the severe arraignment he and his fellow Commissioners had been subjected to they felt too faintly to accept the invitation.

It was moved and carried that at the meeting to be held in February the paper on "Expenditures in the

After a motion to hold fortnightly meetings until the present session of the Legislature should end, the meeting adjourned.